# **GLOSSARY**

ACQUIRED LANDS. Those lands that have been reconveyed to the United States under authorities which do not expressly provide that the lands become subject to the public land laws (land, mineral and leasing) upon acquisition, such as the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937, the National Industrial Recovery Act, and others.

**ACRE-FOOT.** A term used in measuring the volume of fluid. An acre-foot is the amount of fluid required to cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot, or 43,540 cubic feet (325,829 gallons).

**ACTUAL USE.** The number of livestock actually grazing on a given allotment. The use made of forage by livestock or wildlife without reference to permitted or recommended use.

**AIR QUALITY.** Air quality is based on the pollutants emitted into the atmosphere and the dispersion potential of an area to dilute those pollutants. There are three classes of air quality.

**Class I.** Any area which is designated for the most stringent degree of protection from future degradation of air quality. The Clean Air Act designates as mandatory Class I areas each national park over 6,000 acres and each national wilderness area over 5,000 acres.

**Class II.** Any area cleaner than federal air quality standards which is designated for a moderate degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Moderate increases in new pollution may be permitted in a Class II area.

**Class III.** Any area cleaner than federal air quality standards which is designated for a lesser degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Significant increases in new pollution may be permitted in Class III area.

**ALLOTMENT CATEGORIZATION.** The grouping of livestock grazing allotments into the categories "M" (maintain current satisfactory condition), "I" (improve current unsatisfactory condition), and "C" (manage custodially while protecting existing resource values).

**ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN.** A written program of livestock grazing management, including range development if required; designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment.

**ALLUVIUM.** General term for debris deposited by streams on river beds, floodplains, and alluvial fans, especially deposits brought down during a flood. Applies to stream deposits of recent time. Does not include below water sediments of seas and lakes.

**ANIMAL UNIT.** A standardized unit of measurement for range livestock or wildlife. Generally, one mature cow, one horse, five sheep, 9.6 antelope, 5.8 deer, or 1.9 elk, based on an average forage consumption of 26 pounds of dry matter per day.

**ANIMAL UNIT MONTH.** A standardized unit of measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the complete sustenance of one animal for one month; also, the measurement of the privilege of grazing one animal for one month.

**ANTICLINE.** An arched, inverted-trough configuration of folded and stratified rock layers.

**AQUIFER.** A body of rock that is sufficiently permeable to conduct ground water and to yield economically significant quantities of water to wells and springs.

#### AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CON-

**CERN.** An area which needs special management attention to preserve historic, cultural, or scenic values; to protect fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

**ARTESIAN.** Ground water with sufficient pressure to flow without pumping.

**BANKHEAD-JONES FARM TENANT ACT OF 1937.** This Act enabled the government to buy marginal farms and to put the farms back into grazing.

**BEDROCK.** The solid, unweathered rock underlying soils.

**BLOCK MANAGEMENT.** Through cooperation with the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, a Memorandum of Understanding allows the BLM, the private landowners, and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to close off some public lands administered by BLM in exchange for opening up private lands to hunting. This is done on a rotating basis from year to year.

**BROWSE.** As a verb, to consume or to feed on (as a plant); as a noun, the tender shoots, twigs, and leaves of trees and

shrubs, often used as food by cattle, antelope, deer, elk, and other animals.

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION.** A category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and which have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by a federal agency in implementation of these regulations, and neither an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement is required.

**CHANNEL INTEGRITY (STABILITY).** A relative term describing erosion or movement of the channel walls or bottom due to water flow.

**CHECKERBOARD PATTERN.** One in which ownership of sections of land alternates between federal and other ownership, usually private. On a map with different colors denoting type of ownership, the pattern resembles a checkerboard.

**CLAYEY.** A soil containing more than 35 percent clay. The textural classes are sandy clay, silty clay, clay, clay loam, and silty clay loam.

**CONTINENTAL DEPOSITS.** A sedimentary deposit laid down on land (whether a true continent or only an island) or in bodies of water (whether fresh or saline) not directly connected with the ocean, as opposed to a marine deposit; a glacial, stream, lake, or wind-borne deposit formed in a nonmarine environment.

**CORRIDOR.** A strip of land through which one or more existing or potential facilities may be located.

**COW-CALF OPERATION.** A livestock operation in which a basic breeding herd of cows, heifers, and bulls is maintained. The operation keeps some heifer calves from each crop for breeding herd replacements and sells the rest of the calf crop between the ages of 6 to 12 months along with old or nonproductive cows and bulls.

**CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT.** That area of land, water and airspace required for the normal needs and survival of threatened or endangered species.

**CRUCIAL WILDLIFE HABITAT.** Parts of the habitat necessary to sustain a wildlife population during periods of their life cycle. This is often a limiting factor on the population, such as nesting habitat or winter habitat.

**CRUCIAL WINTER RANGE.** That portion of the winter range on which a wildlife species is dependent for survival during periods of heaviest snow cover.

**CULTURAL RESOURCE.** A term that includes items of historical, archaeological, or architectural items; a remnant of human activity.

#### CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY CLASSES.

**Class I** inventory of a defined area provides a narrative overview derived from existing information and a compilation of existing data on which to base the development of the BLM's site record system.

Class II inventory is a sample-oriented field inventory designed to locate and record, from surface and exposed profile indications, all cultural resource sites within a portion of a defined area to make possible an objective estimate of the nature and distribution of cultural resources in the entire defined area.

**Class III** inventory is an intensive field inventory designed to locate and record all cultural resource sites within a specified area. Upon completion of such an inventory, no further cultural resource inventory work is normally needed in that area.

# **CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.** A plan to inventory, evaluate, protect, preserve, or make beneficial use of cultural and natural resources. Objectives are conservation, preservation, scientific study, and protection of the cultural values.

**CUMULATIVE IMPACT.** The impact on the environment which results from the positive or negative impacts of an action when added to other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person performed such action(s).

**DANCING GROUNDS.** An area used in the spring by sharp-tailed grouse for courtship displays and breeding.

**DISCRETIONARY CLOSURE.** Areas where the BLM has determined that energy and/or mineral leasing, entry or disposal, even with the most restrictive stipulations or conditions, would not be in the public's interest.

**DISPOSAL.** Transfer of ownership of a tract of public land from the United States to another party through sale, exchange, or transfer under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

**DOGHAIR STANDS.** A thick stand of undersized trees; in this planning area, generally ponderosa pine.

**DROP STRUCTURE.** An in-stream structure of various materials designed to reduce the energy and force of stream flow.

**EASEMENT.** The right afforded a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

etation of a site in relation to the potential natural community for the site. Ecological status is use independent. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions, and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble that of the potential natural community. Four ecological status classes correspond to 0-25, 26-50, 51-75, or 76-100 percent similarity to the potential natural community and are generally called early seral, mid-seral, late seral, and potential natural community, respectively.

**ECOLOGICAL SITE.** A kind of land with a specific potential natural community and specific physical site characteristics, differing from other kinds of land in its ability to produce vegetation and to respond to management.

**ECOSYSTEM.** A biological community, together with its nonliving environment, forming an interacting system inhabiting an identifiable space.

**EMERGENT AQUATIC VEGETATION.** An aquatic plant having part of its vegetative parts above water.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES.** Those species of plants or animals classified by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce as endangered pursuant to Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. See also Threatened and Endangered Species.

**ENTRAINED PARTICULATES.** Particulates contained within auto exhaust; mainly made of carbons.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.** A record of the environmental factors involved in a land management action.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.** An analysis of site-specific BLM activities used to determine whether such activities have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, and whether a formal environmental impact statement is required.

**EPHEMERAL STREAM.** A stream that flows only after a storm or during snowmelt, and whose channel is, at all times, above the water table.

**EPOCH.** An interval of time based on similar rock formations and fossil groups. Used primarily as subdivisions of the Tertiary and Quaternary Periods.

**EQUAL VALUE (EXCHANGE).** An exchange of lands where fair market valuations show that the interests being exchanged are equal.

**EROSION.** The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice or other geologic agents.

**EROSION FABRIC.** Various types of synthetic fabrics that are used to cover or line exposed or unvegetated soil surfaces to reduce soil erosion. Often used in reclamation projects on steep, unvegetated slopes.

# EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT

**AREA.** An area where recreation management is only one of several management objectives, where limited commitment of resources provides extensive and unstructured recreational opportunities; such areas can contain recreation sites. Such areas consist of the remainder of land not included in special recreation management areas within the resource area.

**FEDERAL LANDS.** As used in this document, lands owned by the United States, without reference as to how the lands were acquired or what federal agency administers them. Also see Public Land.

**FIRE MANAGEMENT.** The integration of knowledge of fire protection, prescribed fire, and fire ecology into multiple use planning, decisionmaking, and land management activities. Fire management places fire in perspective with overall land management objectives.

**PRESCRIBED FIRE:** application of fire (by planned or unplanned ignitions) to fuels in either their natural or modified state, under specified conditions to allow the fire to burn in a predetermined area while producing the fire behavior required to achieve certain management objectives.

**PLANNED IGNITION:** a deliberately preplanned and scheduled fire started in order to accomplish a management action in suppression, or prescribed fire operations.

**UNPLANNED IGNITION:** a fire started at random by either natural or human cause, or a deliberate fire.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN. An activity plan developed to support and accomplish resource management objectives and applicable land-use decisions authorized in BLM resource management plans. It contains an economic analysis, establishes the basic direction for fire management, identifies priorities for execution, and determines levels of fire resources (personnel, engines, aircraft, and facilities).

**FISCAL YEAR.** A period of 12 months established for accounting purposes. For the BLM the fiscal year is from October 1 through September 30.

**FLOODPLAIN.** The relatively flat area or lowlands adjoining a body of standing or flowing water which has been or might be covered by floodwater.

**FORAGE.** Forms of vegetation available for animal consumption.

**FORMATION** (**GEOLOGIC**). A rock body distinguishable from other rock bodies and useful for mapping or description. Formations may be combined into groups or subdivided into members.

**GABIONS.** A hollow cylinder of wickerwork or strap iron constructed like a basket, filled with stones and sunk to form a bar, dike, or similar structure.

**GLACIAL DRIFT.** Sediment deposited by glaciers.

**GLACIAL TILL.** Unstratified glacial drift deposited directly by the ice, consisting of clay, silt, sand, gravel and boulders intermingled in any proportion.

**GRAZING LEASE.** A document authorizing the grazing of a specified number and kind of livestock on a designated area of BLM-administered public land for a specified period.

**GRAZING SYSTEM.** The manipulation of livestock grazing to accomplish a desired result.

GROUND COVER. Vegetation, mulch, litter, or rocks.

**GROUND WATER.** Subsurface water that is in the zone of saturation. The top surface of the ground water is the "water table". Source of water for wells, seepage, and springs.

**GULLYING.** The erosion process whereby water accumulates in narrow channels and, over short periods, removes the soil from the narrow area to considerable depths, ranging from 2 feet to as much as 80 to 100 feet deep.

**GULLY PLUG.** Any form of material placed in an existing gully to reduce the erosional effects of moving water and thereby starting a healing process of the gully.

**HABITAT CONDITION.** The condition of seasonal habitat as it relates to the needs of a particular wildlife species. Condition is determined by factors such as browse vigor, forage quality, cover factors, human interference, and water distribution. Habitat condition is similar to, but not the same as, existing or potential range condition.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN. An officially-approved activity plan for a specific geographic area of public land. A habitat management plan identifies wildlife habitat and related objectives, defines the sequence of actions to be implemented, and outlines evaluation procedures.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE.** Those materials defined in Section 101 (14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, and listed in 40 CFR 261

**GROUP I WASTES.** Including, and limited to, those solid wastes classified or identified by the Environmental Protection Agency as hazardous waste in 40 CFR 261.3.

**GROUP II WASTES.** Including decomposable wastes and mixed solid wastes containing decomposable material, but excluding hazardous wastes (ARM Title 16).

**GROUP III WASTES.** Includes wood wastes and non-water soluble, essentially inert solids (Administrative Rules of Montana [ARM] Title 16).

**CLASS I DISPOSAL SITE.** Generally, may accept solid wastes from Groups I, II, and III. Such a site usually is able to accept all kinds of solid waste (ARM Title 16).

**CLASS II DISPOSAL SITE.** Sites generally licensed to operate as Class II solid waste management system sites; capable of receiving Group II and III wastes, but not Group I (ARM Title 16).

**CLASS III DISPOSAL SITE.** May accept only Group III wastes which are primarily inert wastes (ARM Title 16).

**HERBACEOUS.** Having little or no woody tissue and persisting usually for a single growing season.

**HYDROLOGY.** The science dealing with the behavior of water as it occurs in the atmosphere, on the surface of the ground, and underground.

**INTAGLIO.** An impression design or figure created by man, on the ground, by the placement of rocks or mounding of earth.

**INTENSIVE SUPPRESSION.** To suppress wildfires as quickly as possible, using all available resources without regard to cost of suppression or techniques.

**INTERMITTENT STREAM.** A stream which flows most of the time but occasionally is dry or reduced to pool stage

when losses from evaporation or seepage exceed the available streamflow.

**INVERTEBRATE FOSSIL.** Remains of animals without a backbone, such as clams, snails, and crabs.

**IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE IMPACTS.** Impacts which make recovery of a resource impossible.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUNDS. Federal revenues generated by a tax on federal off-shore oil and gas development through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act; used to acquire highly desirable lands for the United States by the various governmental agencies.

**LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENT.** Repositioning the ownership of land surface or mineral estate by exchange or sale.

**LAND TREATMENT.** All methods of artificial range improvement and soil stabilization such as reseeding, brush control, pitting, furrowing, and water spreading. See Mechanical Treatment.

**LAND UTILIZATION LANDS.** Lands reacquired by the federal government as a result of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937.

**LEASABLE MINERALS.** Federal minerals subject to lease under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, and supplemented. Includes minerals, such as oil, gas, coal, geothermal, tar sands, oil shale, potassium, phosphate, sodium, asphaltic materials.

**LEK.** A traditional breeding area for grouse species where territorial males display and establish dominance.

**LITHIC SCATTER.** The waste material, chips, and flakes resulting from stone tool manufacture.

**LITHOLOGIC VARIATIONS.** The individual character of rocks in terms of mineral composition, structure, and so forth.

**LOAMY.** Soil that is intermediate in texture and properties between sandy and clayey soils. Textural classes are sandy loam, fine sandy loam, very fine sandy loam, loam, silt loam, sandy clay loam, and clay loam with clay content between 18 and 35 percent.

**LOCALITY.** The area where paleontologic material is discovered.

LOCATABLE MINERALS. Minerals or materials subject to disposal and development through the Mining Law

of 1872 (as amended). Generally includes metallic minerals such as gold and silver and other materials not subject to lease or sale.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN. A planning decision document prepared before the effective date of the regulations implementing the land use planning provisions of Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Until replaced by resource management plans, management framework plans were used as a basis for management actions as provided for in 43 CFR 1610.8.

**MECHANICAL TREATMENT.** Treatment of an area by mechanical means, such as contour furrowing, pitting, plowing and seeding, chiseling, scalping, and water spreading.

**MINERAL MATERIALS.** Widespread deposits of common clay, sand, gravel, or stone which are not subject to disposal under the 1872 Mining Law, as amended.

**MITIGATION MEASURES.** Methods or procedures developed for the purpose of reducing or lessening the impacts of an action.

**MONITORING.** Specific studies that evaluate the effectiveness of actions taken toward achieving management objectives.

**MORAINE.** An unsorted accumulation of rocky, earthy debris deposited by glacial activity, whose typical landform manifestations can dominate original land surfaces.

**MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT.** Coordinated management of the various surface and subsurface resources, without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land, that will best meet the present and future needs of the people.

**NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY.** Use or occupancy of the land surface for fluid mineral exploration or development is prohibited to protect identified resource values.

**NONDISCRETIONARY CLOSURES.** Areas specifically closed to energy and/or mineral leasing, entry or disposal by law, regulation, Secretarial Decision or Executive Order.

**OFFERED LANDS.** Lands offered to the BLM in an exchange.

**OFF-ROAD VEHICLE.** Any motorized track or wheeled vehicle designed for cross-country travel over any type of natural terrain. These vehicles are subject to designated area and trail use (open, limited, and closed).

**OPEN.** Vehicles are allowed without restrictions.

**LIMITED.** Vehicle travel off existing roads and trails would be allowed only for authorized or permitted uses.

**CLOSED.** Vehicle travel is closed in the area including existing roads and trails, except for authorized uses.

**PARENT MATERIAL.** The unconsolidated and chemically-weathered mineral or organic matter from which the horizons of soils develop by natural processes.

**PARTICULATES.** Finely divided solid or liquid particles in the air or in an emission, including dust, smoke fumes, mist, spray and fog.

**PERENNIAL STREAM.** A permanent stream which flows 9 months or more out of the year.

**PERMEABILITY.** The ease with which gases, liquids or plant roots pass through a layer of soil. Accepted as a measure of this property is the rate at which soil transmits water while saturated, and may imply how well water passes through the least permeable soil layer.

**PETROGLYPH.** A figure or design that was carved, abraded, or pecked on rock.

**PICTOGRAPH.** A figure or design that was painted or drawn on rock.

**POTENTIAL NATURAL COMMUNITY.** The biotic community that would become established if all successional sequences were completed without interferences under the present environmental conditions.

**PARTS PER MILLION.** A measurement to identify the amount of particulates in air or water.

**PRAIRIE DOG COLONY COMPLEX.** A group of prairie dog colonies distributed so that individual blackfooted ferrets can migrate among them commonly and frequently. This distance has been determined to be 7 kilometers (4.4 miles).

**PREFERENCE.** Grazing privileges established following the passage of the Taylor Grazing Act; based on use of the federal range during the priority period. Active preference and suspended preference together make up the total grazing preference.

**PROJECTILE POINT.** Any sharp tip of an arrow, spear, or dart.

PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION. Riparian/ wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris are present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development; improve floodwater retention and groundwater recharge; develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action; develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian/ wetland areas is a result of interaction among geology, soil, water, and vegetation.

**PUBLIC LANDS.** Surface and mineral estate owned by the United States and administered by the Bureau of Land Management. See *Federal Lands*.

QUALIFIED SURFACE OWNER. According to federal coal regulations (43 CFR 3400), is a person(s): (a) holding legal or equitable title to the surface of split estate lands; (b) having one's principal residence on the land or personally conducting farm or ranch operations on a unit to be affected by surface mining operations, or directly receiving a significant portion of income, if any, from such farm or ranch operations; and (c) meeting conditions (a) and (b) for a period of three years minimum, with the exception of person(s) who have given written consent to conditions (a) and (b) and for less than three years. The three year period includes period during which title was owned by a relative of the person by blood or marriage, if during such time, the relative met the specified requirements.

**RANGE CONDITION.** See Ecological Status.

**RANGELAND MONITORING PROGRAM.** A program designed to measure change in plant composition, ground cover, animal populations, and climatic conditions on the public rangeland. Studies monitor changes to determine cause. Also monitors actual use, forage utilization, trend, and climatic conditions.

**RAPTOR.** Bird of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks (hawks, falcons, owls, and eagles).

**RECLAMATION.** Rehabilitation of a disturbed area to make it acceptable for designated uses. This normally involves regrading, replacement of topsoil, revegetation, and other work necessary to restore it for use.

**RECREATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.** A plan that sets forth the direction for management of recreation uses and resources. The plan identifies specific manage-

ment actions to be taken and establishes the sequence of implementing these actions.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY.** A legal right of passage over another person's land.

**RILL.** Small, conspicuous water channel or rivulet that concentrates runoff; usually less than six inches deep.

**RIPARIAN/WETLAND AREA.** An area of land directly influenced by permanent water. It has visible vegetation or physical characteristics reflective of permanent water influence. Lakeshores, streams and permanent springs are typical riparian areas. Excluded are such sites as ephemeral streams or washes that do not exhibit the presence of vegetation dependent upon free water in the soil.

**ROAD.** A vehicle route which has either been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use, or been established where vehicle travel has created two parallel tracks lacking vegetation.

**ROOKERIES.** The breeding and nesting areas of birds that flock, such as the great blue herons and double-crested cormorants.

**SEASON OF USE.** The time during which livestock grazing is permitted on a given range area, as specified in the grazing lease.

**SEDIMENT.** Soil, rock particles and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water, gravity, ice, or other geologic agent.

**SEDIMENTARY ROCK.** A layered rock resulting from the consolidation of sediment, such as shale, sandstone, and limestone.

**SELECTED LANDS.** BLM lands selected for exchange to other agencies or private individuals.

**SERAL COMMUNITY.** One of a series of plant communities that follow one another in time on any given area.

**SERAL STAGE.** A potential plant community made up of a mix of trees and shrubs.

**SHEET EROSION.** The detachment of soil material from the land surface by raindrop impact and its subsequent removal by runoff.

**SHORT-TERM IMPACTS VS LONG-TERM PRO- DUCTIVITY.** The trade-offs between short-term use and long-term productivity of the resources involved in the alternatives.

**SOIL SURVEY.** The systematic examination, description, classification, and mapping of soils in an area, usually a county. Soil surveys are classified according to the level of detail of field examination. Order I is the most detailed, then Order II, on to Order V which is the least detailed. Most BLM soil surveys are Order II or III.

**SOLID WASTE.** Any solid, semi-solid, liquid, or contained gaseous material which is intended for disposal.

**SPACING UNIT.** The number of acres that one oil or gas well will efficiently drain. The Montana Oil and Gas Commission establishes the size of spacing units for each oil and gas field.

# SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA.

Areas where intensive recreation management would be applied and where recreation is the principal management objective.

#### SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST OR CONCERN.

Animals not yet listed as endangered or threatened but which are undergoing status review by a federal or state agency. This may include animals whose populations could become extinct by any major habitat change. A species that is particularly sensitive to some external disturbance factors.

**SPLIT ESTATE.** Surface and minerals of a given area in different ownerships. Frequently, the surface is privately-owned while the minerals are federally-owned.

**SPUDDING.** To begin drilling; to start the hole.

STEEP SLOPE. Slope greater than 30 percent.

**STIPULATION.** A condition or requirement attached to a lease or contract, usually dealing with protection of the environment, or recovery of a mineral.

**STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS.** Improvements such as fences, reservoirs, springs, pipelines, waterspreaders, wells, water troughs, land treatments and instream structures. These improvements are for the livestock grazing, wildlife, recreation, watershed and soils programs.

**STRUTTING GROUND.** An area used in the spring by sage grouse for courtship displays and breeding. Synonymous with the term "lek."

**SURFACE DISTURBANCE.** Any disturbance by mechanical actions which alters the soil surface.

**SYNCLINES.** A downward, trough-shaped configuration of folded, stratified rocks.

#### THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES.

These species of plants or animals classified as threatened or endangered pursuant to section 4 of the Endangered Species Act. Any species which is in danger of extinction, or is likely to become so within the foreseeable future.

**Category 1** - substantial biological information on file to support the appropriateness of proposing to list as endangered or threatened.

Category 2 - current information indicates that proposing to list as endangered or threatened is possibly appropriate, but substantial biological information is not on file to support an immediate ruling (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

## TIMING LIMITATION (SEASONAL RESTRIC-

**TION).** Prohibits surface use during specified time periods to protect identified resource values. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities unless the findings of analysis demonstrate the continued need for such mitigation, and that less stringent, project-specific mitigation measures would be insufficient.

**TOPOGRAPHY.** The physical features and surface configuration of a place or region. The detailed and accurate description of the landforms of a place or region.

**TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS (TDS).** The dry weight of dissolved material, organic and inorganic, contained in water.

**TRAIL.** A single-tracked route lacking vegetation. Trails can be routes that have been established through previous use by two-wheeled vehicles such as motorcycles or bicycles, or livestock and game trails which lack vegetation. For the purpose of this document, a trail constructed primarily for the purpose of hiking is not available for travel by four- or two-wheeled vehicles unless otherwise indicated.

**TREND.** The direction of change in vegetation condition over a period of time; expressed as upward, downward, or static. Factors influencing trend are changes in plant composition, abundance of young plants, plant residues, plant vigor, and the condition of the soil surface.

## UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PRO-

**GRAM.** A program administered by the Environmental Protection Agency, primacy State, or Indian Tribe under the Safe Drinking Act to ensure that subsurface waste injection does not endanger underground sources of drinking water.

**UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS.** The adverse impacts that would remain if the alternatives are imple-

mented and the mitigating measures developed by BLM are applied.

**UNSUITABILITY CRITERIA.** Criteria of the federal coal management program by which lands may be assessed as unsuitable for all or certain stipulated methods of coal mining.

**USABLE WATER.** Those waters containing up to 10,000 parts per million of total dissolved solids.

**VERTEBRATE FOSSIL.** Remains of animals that possessed a backbone; examples are fish, amphibians, reptiles, dinosaurs, birds, and mammals.

**VIEWSHED**. Landscape that can be directly seen under favorable atmospheric conditions, from a viewpoint or along a transportation corridor.

#### VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES.

Class I - The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. It also would not preclude those activities specifically authorized by the Wilderness Act of 1964 and described in BLM Manual H-8550-1. This is an interim classification until Congress determines which areas are wilderness. Lands designated as wilderness by Congress would continue to be managed under Class I objectives. Lands not designated wilderness would be managed under VRM Class II objectives.

Class II - The objective is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominate natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Class III - The objective is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

**Class IV** - The objective is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These

management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.

**WATER GAP.** Access to water; passage to a reservoir for livestock.

**WETLANDS.** Permanently wet or intermittently flooded areas where the water table (fresh, saline, or brackish) is at, near, or above the soil surface for extended intervals; where hydric wet soil conditions are normally exhibited, and where water depths generally do not exceed two meters.

**WILDCAT.** A well drilled in an area where no oil or gas production exists.

**WILDINGS.** Wildings are live vegetative products sold off the public lands, and generally used for landscaping purposes. They include plants such as yucca, cactus, grasses, pine trees, and willows.

**WITHDRAWAL.** Segregating an area of federal land, from settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws, for the purpose of limiting activities under those laws in order to maintain other public values or reserve the area for a particular purpose, or transferring jurisdiction over an area of federal land.